

Docket: RM-11699

Mr. Andreas Ziemann
7623 SW Leland Dr.
Aloha, OR 97007

June 29, 2013

Dear FCC:

I see no additional need for the encryption of signals within the Amateur Radio Service, as defined by International Treaty since 1927, and as defined in Part 97 of USC Title 47, beyond what is currently allowed for.

The Amateur Radio Service is not the Emergency Radio Service. The Amateur Radio Service has certainly played an important role in emergencies, where it has gained much goodwill in domestic and international arenas such as in the Guatemalan Earthquake of '76 and the Indian Ocean Earthquake and subsequent Tsunami of 2004. As far as I am aware, Amateur Radio operators using the Amateur Radio Service were able to support initial emergency communications without the need of signals encryption.

During the Pacific Northwest December 2007, Amateur Radio operators provided emergency communications for hospital locations on the Oregon coast to their sister hospitals in the Oregon interior, as well as some 911 support in a couple of counties where telecom lines failed. Again, this was all done without the use of signals encryption within the Amateur Radio Service.

In addition, most public agencies such as police, fire, and the like, do not have most of their signals encrypted either. Why would emergency communications within the Amateur Radio Service need to be encrypted?

If vital emergency traffic signals need to be handled in a secure manner, then perhaps public agencies need to invest in such systems and not use the Amateur Radio Service, its hardware and frequencies as a cost savings work around. If the public agencies feel they require additional radio communication operators to support their radio systems on their public agency allocated signals frequencies in an emergency, then Amateur Radio operators would be a good resource since one of the primary purposes of the Amateur Radio Service is to allow for the self training of people in the radio art.

I therefore, as an American Radio Relay League Amateur Radio Emergency Service member within the Amateur Radio Service, am completely 100 percent against the use in the encryption of signals within the Amateur Radio Service, beyond what signal encryption is currently allowed for. Again, Part 97 in USC Title 47 is the primarily and foremost the Amateur Radio Service, not the Emergency Radio Service.

Respectfully submitted,

Andreas Ziemann
KE7AUB